

Renewing Our Vision for 2021
“Our Goal to Grow in Christ”
II Peter 1:5-11

Last Week: The “New Me” in Christ – II Peter 1:1-4

“By Faith” I embrace Jesus to work within me.

It is the power of God within me that changes me.

It is knowing Jesus intimately that produces the change.

I am now aware of what I am meant to be and to do in life.

**I have been Re-created by Jesus
to be Productive for God in this Life!**

(The Parable of the Sower and the Seed (Luke 8:4-15))

Jesus Intends to Change Us for the Good of Others

1. Because of Christ’s power in me and my knowledge of His expectations of me, my goals in life are clear. (I Peter 1:5-7)

- I prioritize excellence: “good character”

Always Doing What is Right

- I prioritize knowledge: “spiritual understanding”

Intimate Awareness of Christ’s Heart and Commitments

- I prioritize self-control: “alert discipline”

Personal Emotion and Desire Management

- I prioritize perseverance: “passionate patience”

Lower Expectations in Life Informed by Jesus

- I prioritize godliness: “reverent wonder”

Respect God as a Father who Desires Us to Reflect Him

- I prioritize brotherly affection: “warm friendliness”

Being Tender and Affirming of My Brethren and Others

- I prioritize unselfish love: “generous love”

Loving My Brethren and Others Sacrificially

2. Without growth in these areas of my life, I will be ineffective and unproductive as a person who claims to know Jesus intimately. (I Peter 1:8)

My life really does make a difference in the lives of others.

How I manage me can change a life.

3. Without growth, I am broadcasting to others that I am ignorant of what Jesus has done in my life. (I Peter 1: 9)

It should be frightening to see no evidence of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

4. My growth in character proves I know who I am, what I am called to do, and where I am going. (I Peter 1: 10-11)

True assurance in Christ comes through transformation.

Identifying Fruit of Character Transformation is Helpful

- **Knowing our Top Seven Character Commitments in life is helpful for self-evaluation and prayer.**
- **Knowing Our Top Seven helps us measure the degree of our growth and surrender to Jesus.**
- **Growth in Our Top Seven gives us assurance that we are children of God nurtured by God.**
- **Growth in Our Top Seven equips us to more effectively change lives for Jesus.**